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Now this is true of the capsules of mosses. In fact the fecundation of the archegonium and the development of the peristome are entirely dependent on moisture, and if a long dry season occurs before either is accomplished, sterility or abortion takes place.

Now to return to *Ceratodon purpureus*. Those of us who have watched, as I have in the New York Botanical Gardens, know that a long dry summer and fall, such as we have had this year, with snow or rain coming after the nights are cold, will make a difference in the fruiting of this species. None of the lovely wine-red pedicels which give this species its specific name of *purpureus* have thrust up in the hollows of the rocks this year, and in February and March when growth begins again the antheridia and archegonia will probably be too old and dry to do their work.

Two adjectives occur frequently in the vocabulary of a professional bryologist, they are "*old* and *worn*." No one who has not tried to write a satisfactory description from dried plants and gone over all the material available both from America and Europe realizes the difficulty of finding specimens in good condition. In some genera such as *Orthotrichum*, for instance, it is imperative that the *peristome* be in just the right state in order to see the *cilia*. If it is too old they are gone. In other genera like *Grimmia*, it is the *calyptra* or the *annulus*, and we all know that these frequently fall with the lid.

So when "*A Plea for More and Better Local Work*" reaches those whose time and place allow it, I want them to realize that even the commonest species are full of interest and problems unsolved, and that the dreary round of study from dry materials may be greatly helped by a refreshing series of observations from living plants.

New York Botanical Gardens.

AMBLYSTEGIUM HOLZINGERI—A CORRECTION.

A. J. GROUT.

In the November, 1909, BRYOLOGIST I published *Amblystegium Holzingeri* as a new species. Prof. Holzinger called my attention to the fact that this combination had already been used by Renaud and Cardot for *Hypnum Closteri* Austin of which it of course becomes a synonym, as Austin's name has the priority by many years.

This renders it necessary to rename the moss described by me under the name of *Amblystegium Holzingeri*. For it I propose the name **Amblystegium Americanum**, nom. nov.